row, if Mr. Sikander Bakht decides to grow a beard like me, naturally, he would come to me for issue of a new passport.

Now, Sir, another thing which we are doing to reduce the burden is this. Please give me a minute. Sir, many people come to us. This is in regard to the passport books which are small. This creates difficulties when a person travels frequently. Therefore, today, I have issued instructions that we should introduce three types of passport books—of different sizes; sixty pages and hundred pages—so that the issue of visa also becomes easier.

So far as verification is concerned, police verification is a hallowed subject. Ultimately, a small constable does it. That is why we have authorised, in the Government of India, Deputy Secretaries and above; in the State Government, Joint Secretaries and above; and in the public sector, persons of equivalent rank.

डा० वाई० लक्ष्मी प्रसाद: माननीय सभापति महोदय? मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि नये पासपोर्ट आफिस खोलने और पासपोर्ट के साइज़ बढ़ाने के लिए उन्होंने उदार दृष्टि अपनाई है। मैं इस सिलसिले में मंत्री महोदय से आपके माध्यम से नये पासपोर्ट आफिस खोलने के विषय में एक विनती करना चाहता हूं। हमारे आन्ध्र प्रदेश मे हैदराबाद में एक आफिस है। तिरूपति और विशाखापत्तनम से सात सौ किलोमीटर दूर से हमें पासपोर्ट के लिए आना पड़ता है। इसके पहले विजयवाड़ा में एक पासपोर्ट आफिस था जिसको पांच साल पहले बन्द कर दिया गया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूं कि नये पासपोर्ट आफिस की बात तो छोड़ दीजिए कम से कम विजयवाड़ा के आफिस को खोल दीजिए। जो बंद कर दिया गया था उसको खोलने की प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूं।

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: This will receive my sympathetic consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Clearance of Irrigation Projects

*104. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI GOPALSINGH G. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of major, medium and small irrigation projects from Gujarat awaiting Central Government's clearance from environmental angle;

(b) the names and details of the projects together with the year of district-wise proposals submitted by the State Government; and

(c) by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b) As present policy, while major irrigation projects need clearance from environmental angle, medium and minor irrigation projects do not require such clearance. Only one Major Project, namely, Machchu-I Modernisation Project, received in February, 1991, envisaging ultimate irrigation potential of 2140 hectares is pending due to non-clearance from environmental angle. The scheme after techno-economic examination, was found acceptable by the Advisory Committee in August, 1993 subject to environmental clearance and concurrence of State Finance Department.

(c) The State Government is required to furnish compliance to the observations of the Advisory Committee. It depends upon State Government how soon it complies with these observations.

देश में सिंचाई सुविधा

*106. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या जल संसाधन यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में कुल 142